

Remarks

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1, 9 and 13 being independent. Claims 17-21 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended herein.

Initially, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 1-4 and 9-21 are allowed. Claims 1-4 and 9-16 have not been amended herein, thus remaining in condition for allowance.

The drawings were objected to for various reasons. It was suggested that the embodiment set forth in Claims 17-21 is not shown in the figures. While it is respectfully submitted that Claims 17-21 are fully supported by the original application, these claims are being cancelled herein to expedite allowance. Favorable consideration is requested.

It was also noted that reference character S8 depicted in Fig. 16 was not described in the specification. The specification has been amended at paragraph [0010] to include this reference character. Favorable consideration and withdrawal of the objections to the drawings are requested.

Claims 5-8 were objected to for minor informalities. Without conceding the propriety of this objection, Claim 5 has been amended to clarify that the wave shape providing means includes at least a portion of the plurality of grooves and ridges of the

platen. The wave shape providing means can further include a transporting roller pair (Claim 6) or a sheet guide member (Claim 7). In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Claims 5-8 are also requested. Further, because Claims 5-8 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1, these claims are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined by Claims 1-16 and that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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